

A map of Iraq and surrounding regions, with Iraq highlighted in yellow. The map shows the Persian Gulf to the east and the Mediterranean Sea to the north.

# **Iraq Weekly Status Report**

**March 1, 2006**

**Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs  
US Department of State**



# Table of Contents

This report provides weekly updates in the eight key areas identified as pillars of US government policy for victory in Iraq.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

SECTION	SLIDE
<u>Highlights</u>	3
1. <u>Defeat the Terrorists and Neutralize the Insurgents</u>	5
2. <u>Transition Iraq to Security Self-Reliance</u>	6
3. <u>Help Iraqis to Forge a National Compact for Democratic Government</u>	8
4. <u>Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services</u>	11
5. <u>Help Iraq Strengthen Its Economy</u>	18
6. <u>Help Iraq Strengthen the Rule of Law and Promote Civil Rights</u>	26
7. <u>Increase International Support for Iraq</u>	27
8. <u>Strengthen Public Understanding of Coalition Efforts and Public Isolation of the Insurgents</u>	29
<u>Sources and Contact Information</u>	31
<u>Notes and Source Citations</u>	32



## Highlights

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### **1. Defeat the Terrorists and Neutralize the Insurgents**

Iraqi Police and Coalition Forces conducted a raid resulting in the death of Abu Asma, the Al Qaeda military leader of Northern Baghdad. Abu Asma was an explosives expert with close ties to senior Baghdad-based manufacturers of vehicle borne improvised explosive devices.

### **2. Transition Iraq to Security Self-Reliance**

The Police Chief of Diwaniyah Province, Iraq Reconstruction Management Office Representative Hakim Kawy and Col. Larry McCallister, commander of Gulf Region South District, US Army Corps of Engineers cut the ribbon to officially open the 32nd police station in Diwaniyah Province.

### **3. Help Iraqis to Forge a National Compact for Democratic Government**

Forming Iraq's new government could take at least two months, National Security Adviser Mowaffaq al-Rubaie said on February 21, citing recent violence as one of the reasons for the delay.

### **4. Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services**

The US Army Corps of Engineers completed construction on the \$118 million New Power Generation Plant in Basrah Province. The new plant will provide power to approximately 1.5 million residents.



## Highlights

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

### **5. Help Iraq Strengthen Its Economy**

Thus far, the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs (MOLSA) has received 450,000 applications for a new cash-based social welfare program for impoverished families, of which 1,900 have been processed for inclusion. Processing of new applicants is slow because each application has to be verified and means tested.

### **6. Help Iraq Strengthen the Rule of Law**

The trial of deposed Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein and his seven co-defendants resumed on February 28.

### **7. Increase International Support for Iraq**

The UN stated that it is prepared, with the support of the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), to establish urgently a special reconstruction fund, supported by the international community, to rebuild the damaged Shrine and other mosques that were damaged after February 22.

### **8. Strengthen Public Understanding of Coalition Efforts and Public Isolation of the Insurgents**

Ambassador Zalmay Khalilzad, during an interview on Fox News on February 27, lauded Iraqi leaders for taking steps to calm the situation following the Samarra bombing. "The Iraqis came to the brink of civil war as a result of the attack on the shrine. They have come now together to take steps to calm the situation."



## [1.] Defeat the Terrorists and Neutralize the Insurgency

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

### Search Nets Terror Cell Suspects:

- Soldiers from the 2nd Battalion, 2nd Brigade, 5th Iraqi Army Division detained 20 persons believed to belong to two different bomb-making cells on February 25 during cordon and search operations southwest of Muqdadiah.

### Al Qaeda Leader Killed in Raid:

- Iraqi Police and Coalition Forces conducted a raid resulting in the death of Abu Asma, the Al Qaeda military leader of Northern Baghdad. Abu Asma was an explosives expert with close ties to senior Baghdad-based manufacturers of vehicle borne improvised explosive devices. He was directly responsible for many deaths and injuries of Coalition and Iraqi security forces. Intelligence reports indicated Abu Asma had suicide vests which he planned to use against the Iraqi people and security forces.



## [2.] Transition to Security Self-Reliance – Iraqi Security Forces

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

### US, Iraqi Troops Step Up Patrols, Defuse Weapons Caches:

- US and Iraqi troops have stepped up their patrols in Iraq's Baghdad and Babil provinces, and with assistance from ordinary Iraqis, discovered and defused numerous roadside bombs, mine fields, and weapons caches. The stepped-up patrols are designed to provide a safe environment for ordinary Iraqis. Iraq has been wracked with demonstrations and violence following the recent terrorist bombing of the Askariya shrine in Samarra.

### Thirty-Two Police Stations in Diwaniyah Province are Finished:

- The Police Chief of Diwaniyah Province, Iraq Reconstruction Management Office Representative Hakim Kawy and Col. Larry McCallister, Commander of Gulf Region South District, US Army Corps of Engineers cut the ribbon to officially open the 32nd police station in Diwaniyah Province. Hay Ramadan Police Station is a newly constructed station in a congested, busy residential and market area of Diwaniyah. Approximately one-hundred police officers and guests attended the ceremony.

## [2.] Transition Iraq to Security Self-Reliance – **Iraqi Security Forces**



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### Ministry of Interior Forces

COMPONENT	TRAINED & EQUIPPED
POLICE	~85,900
HIGHWAY PATROL	
OTHER MOI FORCES	~37,700
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>~123,600*</b>

### Ministry of Defense Forces

COMPONENT	OPERATIONAL
ARMY	~107,200
AIR FORCE	~500
NAVY	~800
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>~108,500**</b>

**Total Trained & Equipped ISF:**  
**~232,100**

\* Ministry of Interior Forces: Unauthorized absence personnel are included in these numbers

\*\* Ministry of Defense Forces: Unauthorized absence personnel are not included in these numbers

Data as of February 20, 2006 (updated bi-weekly by DOD)



### [3.] Help Iraqis to Forge a National Compact for Democratic Government— **Developments**

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

#### PM Ja'afari rallies Iraqis despite criticism:

- Iraqi Prime Minister Ibrahim Ja'afari claimed that sectarian violence in his country would not derail efforts to set up a new government and said the security situation was as now under control. "The distressing incidents Iraq witnessed recently are deliberate terrorist activities, but they led to our people uniting as one," Ja'afari said. He was speaking against a background of harsh criticism from Iraqi President Jalal Talabani for Ja'afari's official visit to Ankara without referring the matter to other cabinet members while talks are still under way to form the next government.

#### Sunni leaders indicate cooperation:

- Sunni Arabs appear ready to end their boycott of talks to form a new Iraqi government if rival Shiites return mosques seized in last week's sectarian attacks and meet other security-related demands, said Adnan al-Dulaimi, a top Sunni figure, whose Iraqi Accordance Front spearheaded the Sunni boycott of government formation talks on February 27. The Sunnis boycotted the talks on February 23 after the Askariya shrine bombing sparked attacks against Sunni mosques in Baghdad, Basra and elsewhere. The number of attacks has dropped sharply over the last few days.



### [3.] Help Iraqis to Forge a National Compact for Democratic Government– **Developments**



#### IECI Officially Announced 15 December 2005 Election Results:

Political Entity Name	Ballot Number	Total Votes	Governorate Seats	Compensatory Seats	National Seats	Total Seats
Unified Iraqi Coalition	555	5021137	109	0	19	128
Kurdistani Gathering	730	2642172	43	0	10	53
Tawafoq Iraqi Front	618	1840216	37	0	7	44
National Iraqi List	731	977325	21	0	4	25
Hewar National Iraqi Front	667	499963	9	0	2	11
Islamic Union of Kurdistan	561	157688	4	0	1	5
Liberation and Reconciliation Gathering	516	129847	3	0	0	3
Mithal Al Aloosi List for Iraqi Nation	620	32245	1	0	0	1
Iraqi Turkoman Front	630	87993	1	0	0	1
Progressives	631	145028	1	0	1	2
Al Ezediah Movement for Progressing and Reform	668	21908	1	0	0	1
Al Rafedain List	740	47263	0	1	0	1
<b>Total</b>			<b>230</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>275</b>



## [3.] Help Iraqis to Forge a National Compact for Democratic Government - **Iraqi Transitional Government**

		<b>Deputy President</b> Sheikh Ghazi al-Yawr	<b>President</b> Jalal Talabani	<b>Deputy President</b> ‘Adil ‘Abd al-Mahdi	
			<b>Prime Minister</b> Ibrahim al-Ja’fari		
<b>Deputy Prime Minister</b> Rawsh Shaways	<b>Deputy Prime Minister</b> ‘Abd Mutlak al-Juburi			<b>Deputy Prime Minister</b> Ahmad al-Chalabi	<b>Deputy Prime Minister</b> Vacant
<b>Minister of Agriculture</b> Ali al-Bahadili	<b>Minister of Communications</b> Juwana Fu’ad Ma’sum (F)	<b>Minister of Culture</b> Nuri al-Rawi	<b>Minister of Defense</b> Sa’dun al-Dulaymi	<b>Minister of Displacement &amp; Migration</b> Suhayla al-Kinani (F)	<b>Minister of Electricity</b> Muhsin Shallash
<b>Minister of Education</b> Abdul Mun’im al-Falah Hasan	<b>Minister of Environment</b> Narmin ‘Uthman (F)	<b>Minister of Finance</b> ‘Ali ‘Allawi	<b>Minister of Foreign Affairs</b> Hoshiyar Zebari	<b>Minister of Health</b> Abd al-Muttalib al-Rubay’i	<b>Minister of Higher Education</b> Sami al-Muzaffar
<b>Minister of Human Rights</b> Vacant	<b>Minister of Industry &amp; Minerals</b> Usama al-Najafi	<b>Minister of Interior</b> Bayan Jabr	<b>Minister of Justice</b> ‘Abd al-Husayn Shandal	<b>Minister of Housing &amp; Construction</b> Jasim Ja’far	<b>Minister of Labor &amp; Social Affairs</b> Idris Hadi
<b>Minister of Oil</b> Hashem al-Hashemi (Acting)	<b>Minister of Planning</b> Barham Salih	<b>Minister of Trade</b> ‘Abd al-Basit Mawlood	<b>Minister of Science &amp; Technology</b> Basima Butrus (F)	<b>Minister of Municipalities &amp; Public Works</b> Nasreen Berwari (F)	<b>Minister of Transportation</b> Salam al-Maliki
<b>Minister of Water Resources</b> ‘Abd al-Latif Rashid	<b>Minister of Youth &amp; Sports</b> Talib Aziz al-Zaini	<b>Minister of State for Civil Society</b> ‘Ala’ abib Kazim	<b>Minister of State for National Assembly Affairs</b> Safa’ al-Din al-Safi	<b>Minister of State for National Security Affairs</b> ‘Abd al-Karim al-‘Anzi	
		<b>Minister of State for Provinces</b> Sa’d al-Hardan	<b>Minister of State for Tourism and Antiquities</b> Hashim al-Hashimi	<b>Minister of State for Women’s Affairs</b> Azhar al-Shaykhli (F)	

(F) = Female



## [4.] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – Financials from Iraq Relief and Reconstruction Fund (IRRF) 1 and IRRF 2

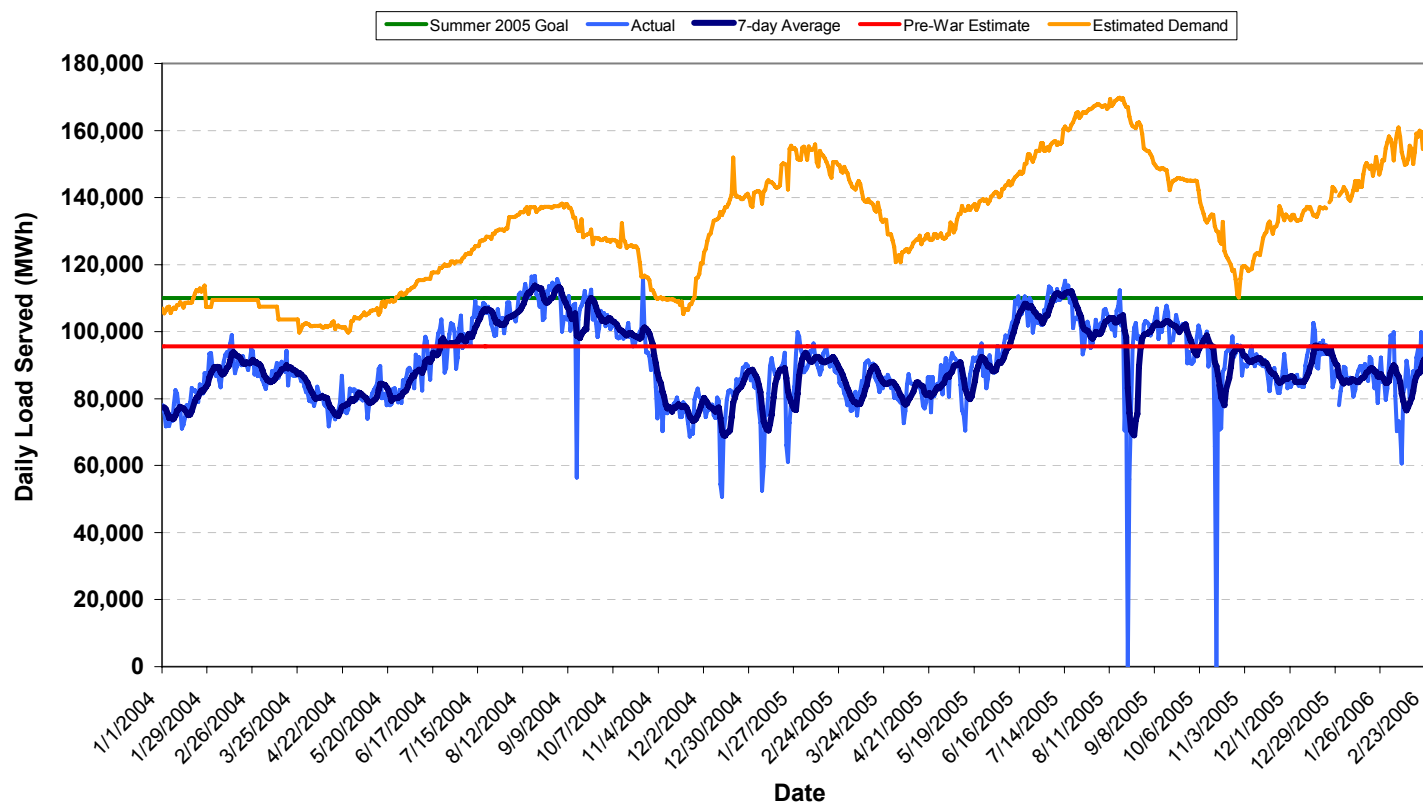
\$Millions Sector	Apportioned		Committed			Obligated			Disbursed		
	2207 Report	Apportion	Last Week	Current	Change	Last Week	Current	Change	Last Week	Current	Change
Security and Law Enforcement	5036.00	5036.00	4,949.7	4,948.1	(162)	4,840.6	4,851.0	10.42	4,284.6	4,315.5	30.9
Electricity Sector	4220.02	4220.02	3,715.4	3,719.2	3.77	3,253.5	3,402.7	149.18	1,938.5	1,949.6	11.1
Oil Infrastructure	1735.60	1735.60	1,691.1	1,682.4	(8.63)	1,514.5	1,549.0	34.50	739.4	748.1	8.7
Justice, Public Safety and Civil Society	1315.95	1315.95	1,208.3	1,206.5	(1.81)	1,136.6	1,181.6	44.96	774.7	797.8	23.1
Democracy	1033.85	1033.85	974.7	975.2	0.50	973.4	974.4	1.00	650.4	654.9	4.5
Education, Refugees, Human Rights, Governance	410.00	410.00	342.0	342.0	(0.01)	337.7	337.8	0.11	228.7	232.2	3.5
Roads, Bridges and Construction	333.71	333.71	306.2	294.7	(11.49)	291.4	287.4	(4.02)	171.8	172.5	0.7
Health Care	739.00	739.00	732.1	717.3	(14.81)	650.1	670.6	20.49	393.6	408.9	15.3
Transportation and Communications	465.51	465.51	431.1	457.0	25.87	385.2	389.8	4.64	227.6	233.9	6.3
Water Resources and Sanitation	2131.08	2131.08	1,586.7	1,580.0	(6.67)	1,485.2	1,482.4	(2.74)	820.1	832.1	12.0
Private Sector Development	805.28	805.28	793.5	793.5	0.00	782.3	782.3	0.00	585.0	585.2	0.2
Admin Expense (USAID, STATE)	213.00	213.00	159.7	159.7	0.00	159.7	159.7	0.00	61.1	61.1	0.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>18439.00</b>	<b>18439.00</b>	<b>16,890.5</b>	<b>16,875.6</b>	<b>(14.90)</b>	<b>15,810.3</b>	<b>16,068.9</b>	<b>258.55</b>	<b>10,875.4</b>	<b>10,991.7</b>	<b>116.3</b>
IRRF 2 Construction			9,590.5	9,579.4	(11.12)	8,792.9	9,062.5	269.56	5,531.9	5,599.3	67.5
IRRF 2 Non-Construction			6,325.3	6,321.0	(4.28)	6,044.0	6,032.0	(12.00)	4,693.1	4,737.5	44.4
IRRF 2 Democracy			975.3	975.8	0.50	973.4	974.4	1.00	650.4	654.9	4.5
IRRF 1 Subtotal	2473.30	2473.30	2,473.3	2473.30	0.00	2,473.3	2,473.3	0.00	2,406.6	2,406.6	0.0
<b>Grand Total IRRF 1 &amp; 2</b>	<b>20912.30</b>	<b>20912.30</b>	<b>19,363.8</b>	<b>19,348.9</b>	<b>(14.90)</b>	<b>18,283.6</b>	<b>18,542.2</b>	<b>258.55</b>	<b>13,282.0</b>	<b>13,398.3</b>	<b>116.3</b>

As of February 28, 2006

## [4.] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – Electricity Overview



Daily Electricity Supplied and Estimated Demand in Iraq Since January 2004



- Electricity availability in Baghdad stayed steady in the last week (February 21-27) with an average of 6.4 hours per day.
- Nationwide average electricity availability increased slightly to 10.9 hours per day.
- Electricity output for February 2006 is two percent lower than it was in February 2005.



## [4.] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – **Electricity**

### Electricity:

- US Army Corps of Engineers completed construction on the Khor Az Zubayr New Power Generation Plant in Az Zubayr, Basrah Province, that nearly doubles the output of the existing Khor Az Zubayr Power Plant, providing electricity to the 1.5 million residents of Basrah. The \$118 million project designed, installed, and commissioned two new turbine-generator units at the existing power plant, with each unit adding 125 megawatts to the Iraqi national electrical grid.
- On February 21, the US Army Corps of Engineers completed construction on the \$3.4 million Al Abara Substation, an Electric Distribution Project in Diyala Province. The rehabilitated substation is capable of providing power to approximately 60,000 residents.
- The US Army Corps of Engineers has completed two electrical projects in the Erbil Governorate. The \$5 million Zahko Substation benefits 30,000 residents of the area; and the \$10.3 million Zahko Substation Feeder project increases reliability of the electrical distribution system serving North Erbil.



## [4.] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – **Education**

### Education:

- USAID's recently completed Higher Education and Development (HEAD) program created partnerships between five American and 10 Iraqi universities to aid the reestablishment of academic excellence in Iraq's higher education system. Since January 2004, more than 1,500 Iraqi faculty and students have participated in workshops, trainings, conferences, and courses in Iraq, the Middle East, Europe, and the US. University facilities, such as libraries, computer and science laboratories, lecture halls, and buildings, have been rehabilitated at colleges of law, engineering, medicine, archeology, and agriculture.
- Construction is complete for the Al Basasel School project that 150 students and eight faculty members will utilize in Mosul. The project added six additional classrooms to the existing facility. The \$434,000 project was funded by the Commander's Emergency Response Program (CERP), which enables Multi-National Corps-I commanders to respond to urgent humanitarian relief and reconstruction requirements within their area of operations.
- The US Army Corps of Engineers completed construction on several other educational facilities:
  - Renovations on the Malk Al Ashtar School project in Diwaniyah, that will benefit some 2,000 Iraqi students currently attending classes in two smaller and older schools in this economically disadvantaged area.
  - A girl's school housing 480 students in Khairat, Karbala Province. The \$153,000 project included demolition of the old school and construction of a new single-story school with 12 classrooms.
  - Refurbishing of the Imam Ali School in Karbala, including installing new floor tiles, doors, roof, windows, and a security fence. This school will serve approximately 960 students.

#### [4.] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – **Water and Sanitation**



##### Water and Sanitation:

- US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) completed a water pump station project that will benefit approximately 100,000 Iraqis in the western part of Mosul. The \$192,000 project constructed a new pump station, a vital component of the water system to ensure that homes and businesses have adequate water pressure and water flow.
- USACE completed construction on a public works and water project in Al Kut, Wasit Province. The \$328,000 Hai Al Zhraa water project replaced an existing pipeline and now connects residences and buildings to the new network.
- Approximately 10,000 Iraqis will be supplied with drinking water with the completion of a \$191,000 USACE water main project. About 2,000 meters of water distribution pipes were installed to serve the Abu Skheer area of Basrah Province.



#### [4.] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – **Public Health, Healthcare and Transportation**

##### Public Health and Healthcare:

- USAID extension teams are teaching rural villagers in Sulaymaniyah, Dahuk, and Ninewa about avian flu. “How to” workshops cover symptom recognition in poultry and minimizing risk of contact with the disease. USAID’s overall Animal Health and Zoonotic Disease Awareness program covers a range of diseases that can be transmitted from animals to humans. Workshops, led by specialists from the Ministry of Agriculture, have instructed over 4,800 villagers to date.

##### Transportation:

- Construction is complete on two US-funded Village Road Projects in the Basrah Governorate that will provide improved transportation for 6,000 local residents in Taha and Al Khas; including access to a school and a water treatment plant. The road segments go through congested neighborhoods in Taha (3.5 kilometers (km)) and Al Khas (5.7km). Additionally, the contractor installed six culverts in the Al Khas road segment to assist the movement of water for agricultural irrigation.



## [4.] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – **Communications**



### Communications:

- The Iraqi National Communications and Media Commission (NCMC) initiated the bidding process to award up to four 15-year national mobile telecommunications licenses. The new licenses would come into effect after the current regional licenses expire on June 30.



## [5.] Help Iraq Strengthen Its Economy – Oil Update and Job Creation

### Oil Update:

- Crude oil prices in world markets for the week ending February 24 closed with the following prices:
  - Basrah Light at \$51.21/barrel
  - Dated Brent at \$59.55/barrel
  - WTI Cushing at \$59.92/barrel
  - Oman/Dubai at \$57.28/barrel

### Employment Update:

- The following chart shows the number of Iraqis employed by USG-administered projects:

Employing Organization	Iraqis Last Week	Iraqis This Week	% Increase on Week
PCO (Project and Contracting Office)	36,320	38,223	5.24%
USAID	49,734	37,401	-24.80%
AIRP (Accelerated Iraqi Reconstruction Program)	1,680	1,268	-24.52%
MILCON (Military Construction)	313	254	-18.85%
CERP (Commanders' Emergency Response Program)	0	0	0.00%
MNSTC-I	16,660	16,660	0.00%
IRRF NON-CONSTRUCTION	15,887	16,012	0.79%
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>120,594</b>	<b>109,818</b>	<b>-8.94%</b>

Data as of February 28

CERP numbers have not been updated recently and PCO will be reporting on a bi-weekly basis.

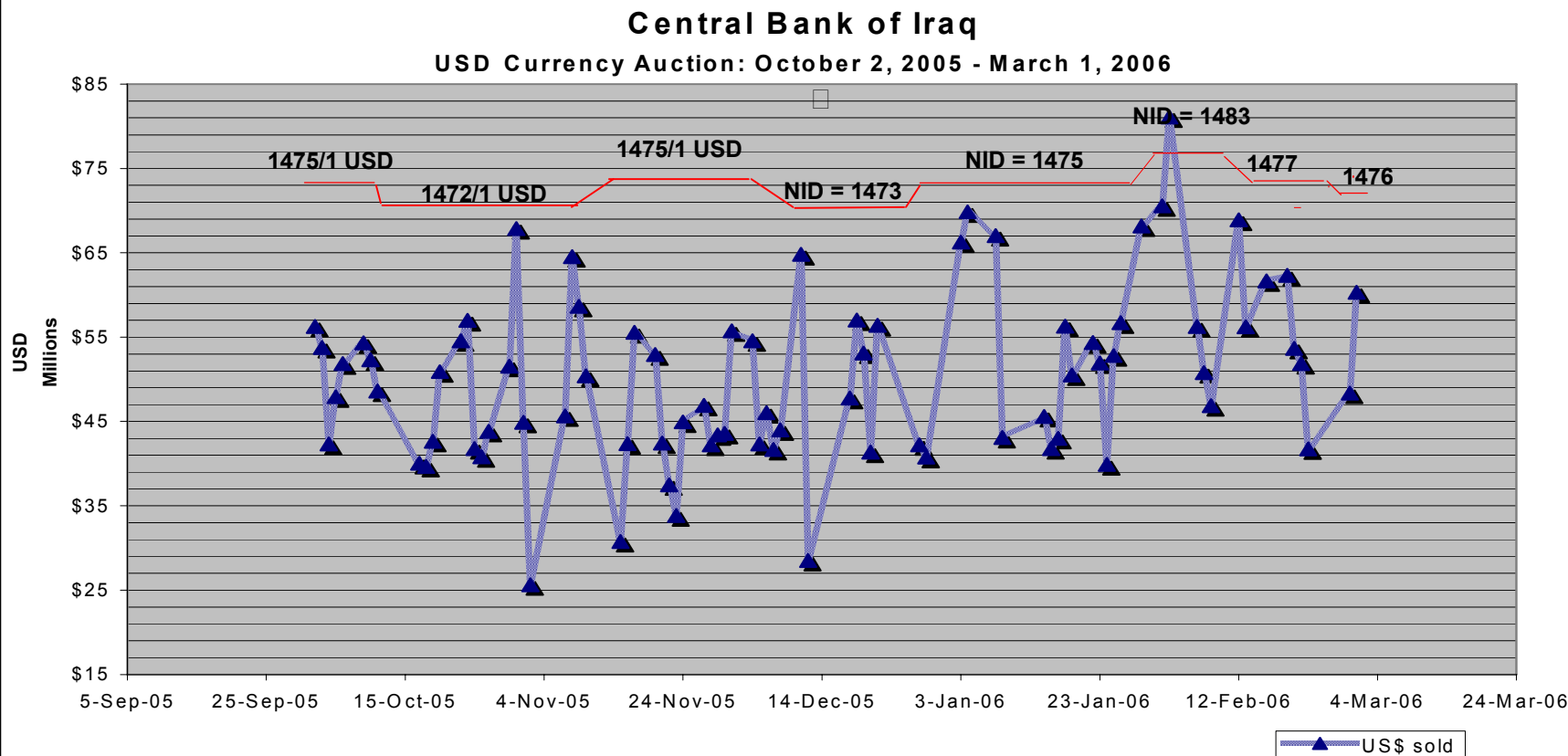
USAID continues to update weekly.



## [5.] Help Iraq Strengthen Its Economy - Banking Sector

### Central Bank's US Dollar (USD) Currency Auction:

- The following table shows volume sold and exchange rates for USD in the Iraqi currency auction since October 2, 2005. The dinar remained stable against the dollar this week, ending at 1,476 dinars per USD on March 1.



\*On January 8, the CBI purchased \$1,320,000 of Iraqi Dinars at the exchange rate of 1481 NID/\$.

\*The NID exchange rate line is calculated as a weekly weighted average.

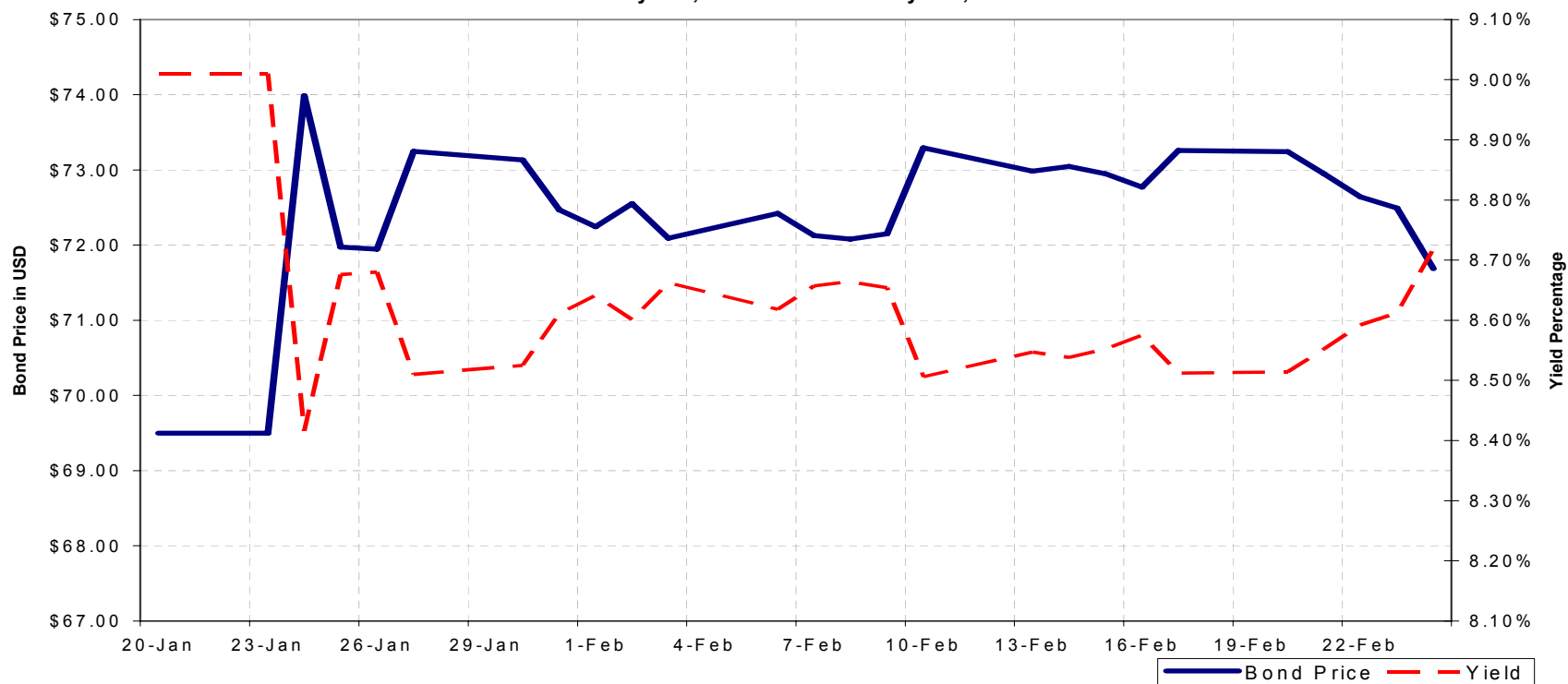


## [5.] Help Iraq Strengthen Its Economy – Securities Markets

### Trade of Iraqi Bonds on the International Secondary Bond Market:

- The following table shows the daily bond resale price and yield on Iraq bonds issued January 20. The bonds were originally issued to about two-thirds of Iraq's commercial creditors to repay 20 percent of Iraq's \$22 billion in commercial debt. The bonds, which are not yet rated, will mature in 2028. These are the only Iraqi sovereign debt instruments trading on the international market. With a current yield of 9.746 percent, it is slightly lower than Ecuador and Argentina, but the return is still one of the highest in the world for sovereign debt instruments.

**Iraqi Commercial Bond Sales**  
January 20, 2006 - February 24, 2006





## [5.] Help Iraq Strengthen Its Economy

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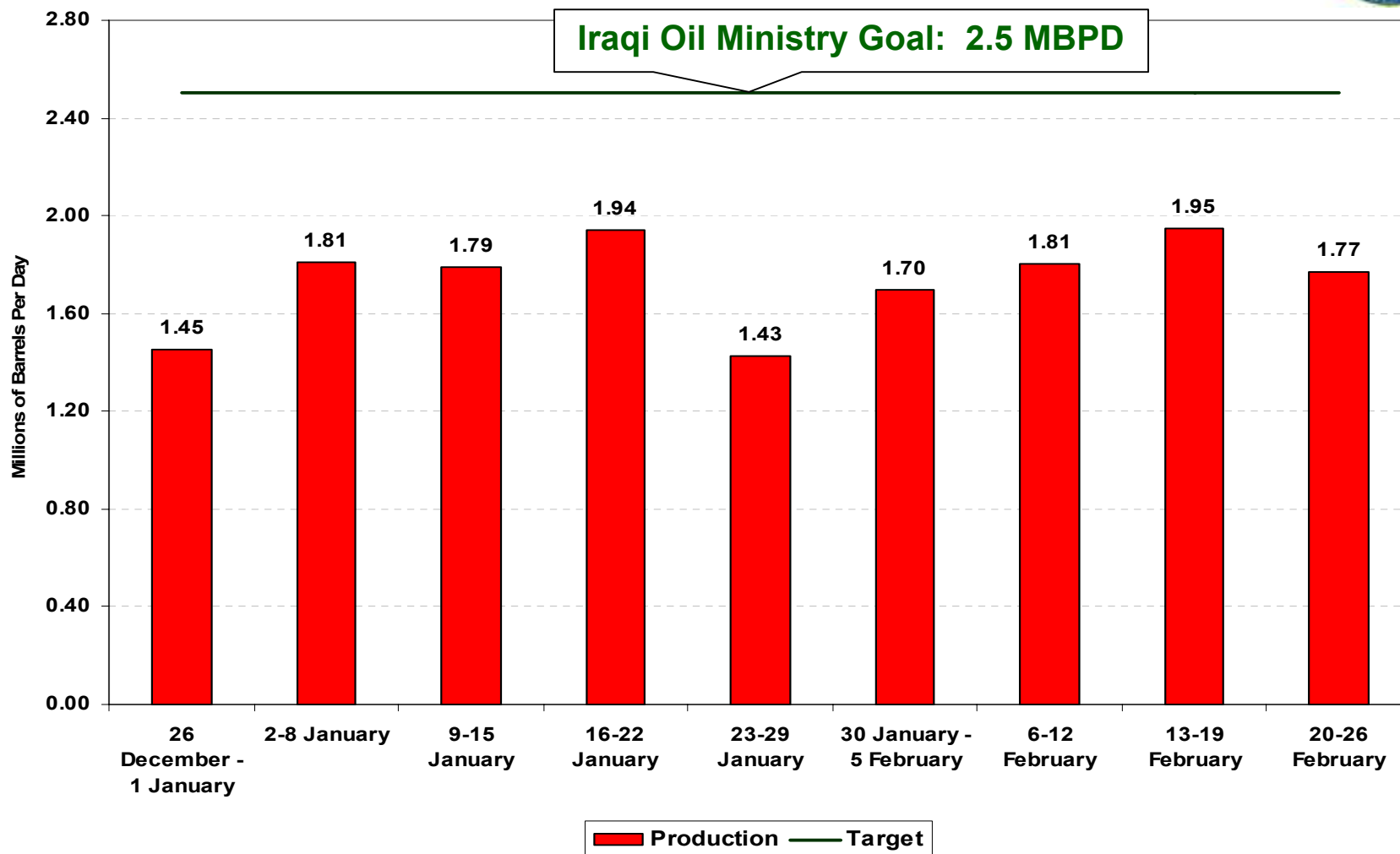
### Implementation of New Unified Pension Law:

- Public servants who retired after January 17 will be paid pensions according to the new Unified Pension Law 27 of 2006. The Ministry of Finance plans to define the pension regulations in line with Iraq's international conventions and agreements.
- The new retirement age will be set at 50, and retroactive claims will be circumscribed. After January 17 pensions will be paid by the Public Servants Retirement Fund, which was formed in accordance with Chapter 6 of the new Unified Pension Law.

### Social Safety Welfare Program:

- Thus far, the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs (MOLSA) has received 450,000 applications for a new cash-based social welfare program for impoverished families, of which 1,900 have been processed for inclusion. Processing of new applicants is slow because each application has to be verified and means tested.

## [5.0] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – Crude Oil Production

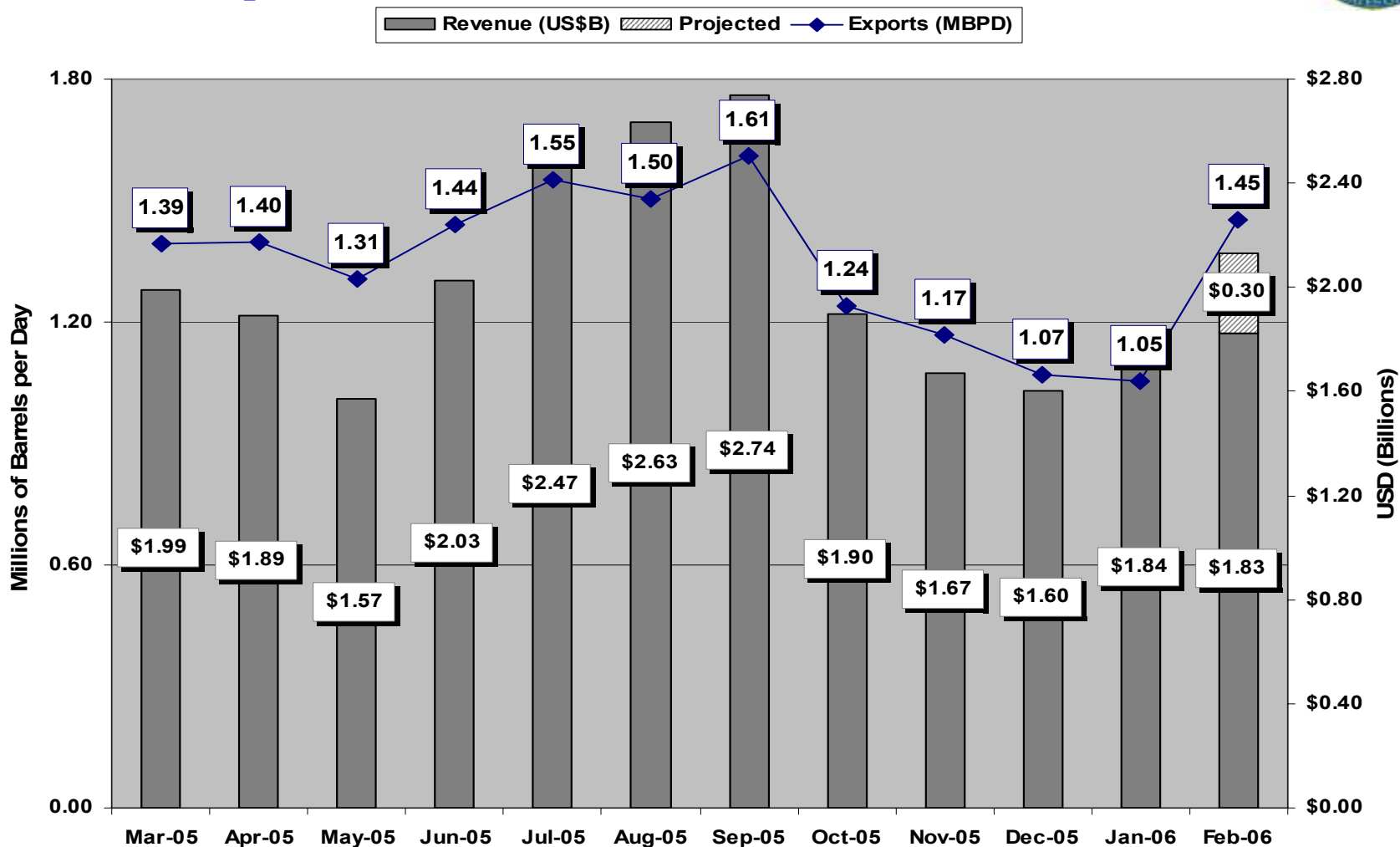
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- Weekly Average (February 20-26) of 1.77 Million Barrels Per Day (MBPD)

## [5.0] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – Crude Oil Export

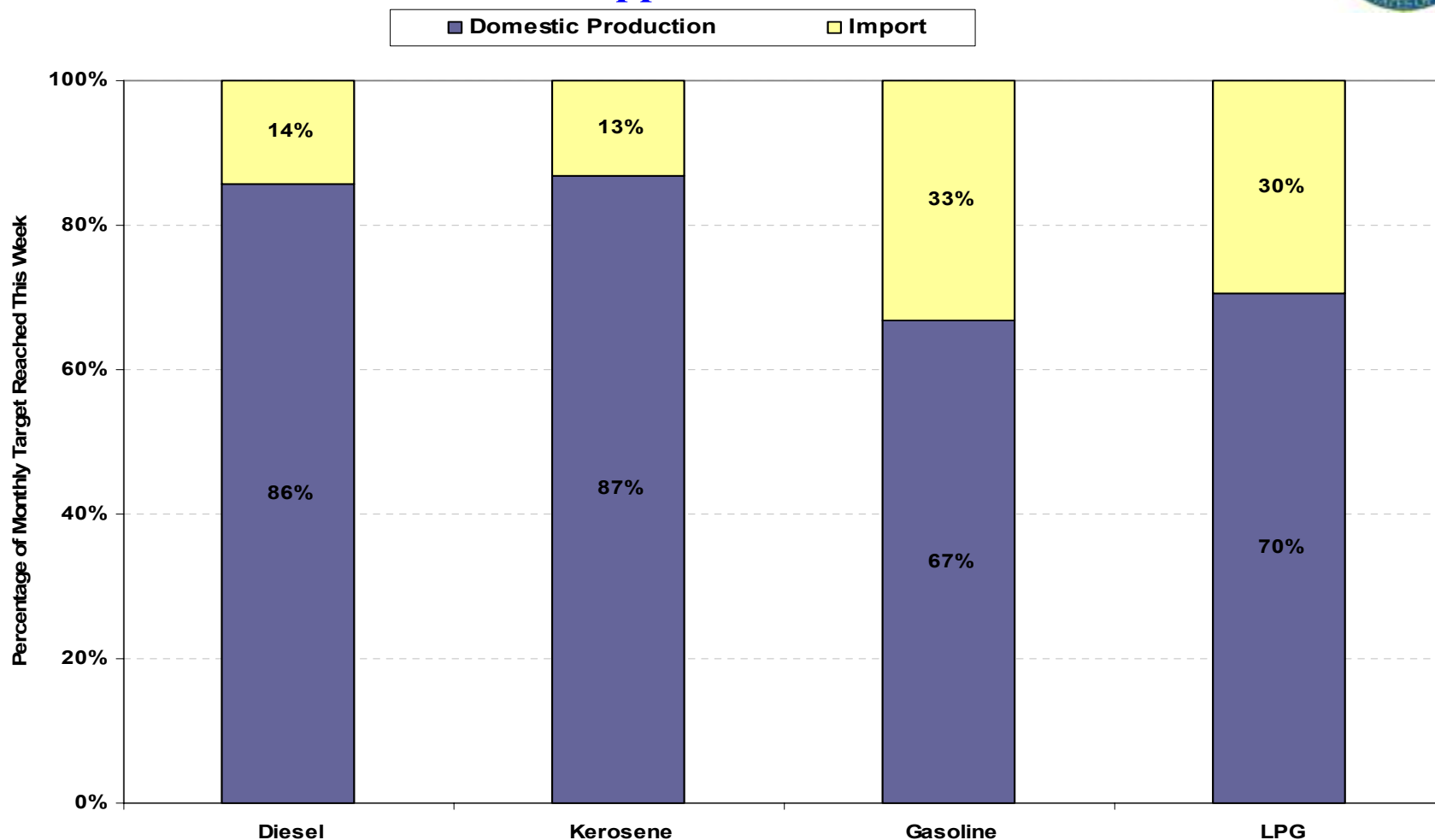


DEPARTMENT OF STATE



- 2005 Revenue: \$23.5 B
- 2006 Revenue: \$3.7 B (Year to Date)

## [5.0] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – Total Critical Refined Product Supplies

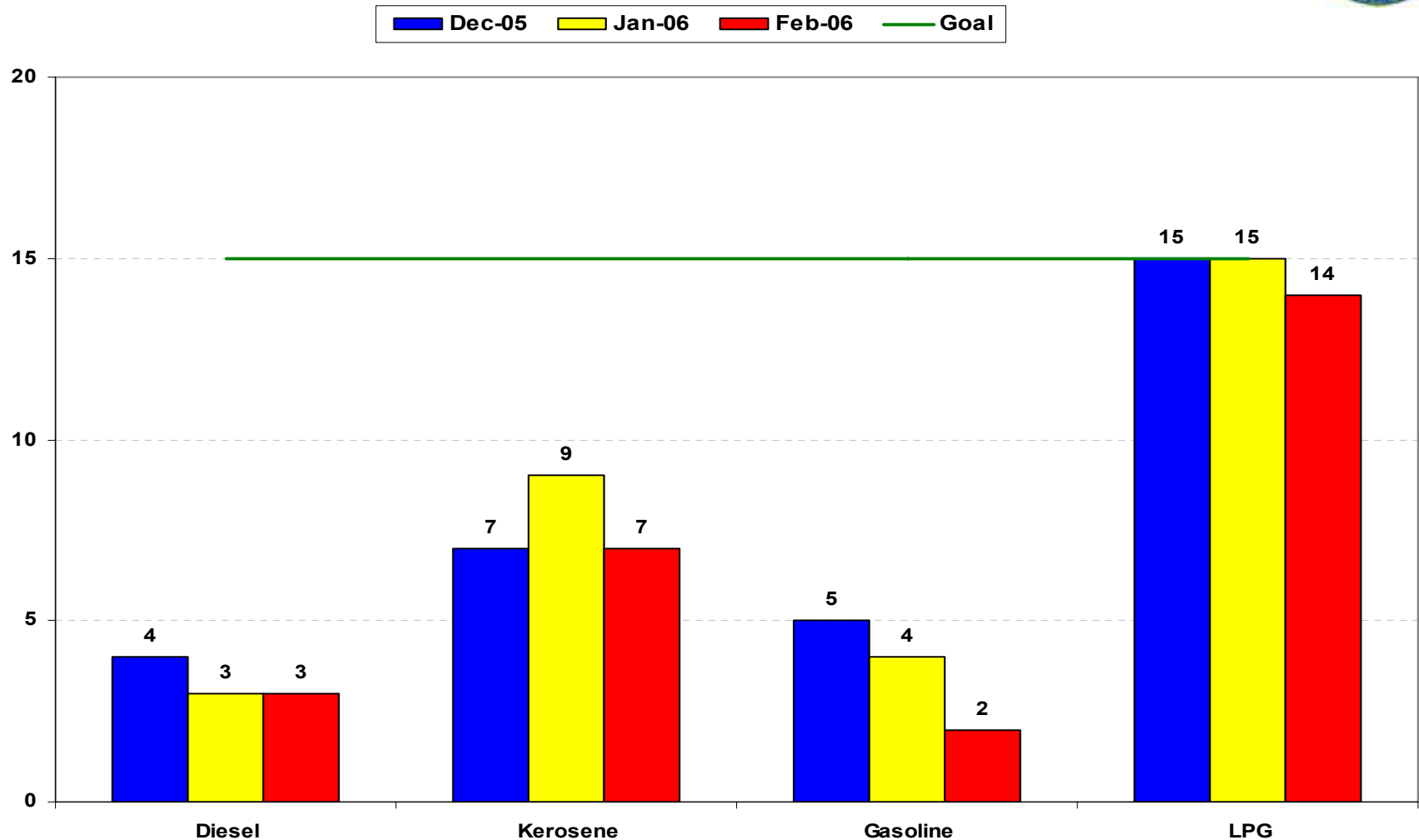
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Note: This is a daily average for the week of February 20-26

- Diesel: 12.1 ML supply of 20.6 ML target
- Kerosene: 6.6 ML supply of 10.5 ML target
- Gasoline: 14.7 ML supply of 23.4 ML target
- LPG: 1,518 tons supply of 4,400 tons target



## [5.0] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – National Stock Levels

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- The goal is to have on hand 15 days supply of all refined products, calculated on the basis of maximum consumption over the year and not adjusted for seasonal variation. The numbers given above are monthly averages.

## [6.0] Help Iraq Strengthen the Rule of Law and Promote Civil Rights– Iraqi Judicial System



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### Prosecutors Allege Saddam Ordered Executions of Dujail Villagers:

- The trial of deposed Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein and his seven co-defendants resumed on February 28. Prosecutors presented a document they said was signed by the former leader approving the executions of more than 140 Shiites in southern Iraq after an assassination attempt in the 1980s. The document was among several introduced by chief prosecutor Jaafar al-Moussawi concerning the killings of Shiites from the town of Dujail in 1982.



## [7.] Increase International Support for Iraq – **Developments**

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### Widespread International Reactions to the Holy Shrine of Imam Ali-Hadi Mosque:

- Following leading statements from the UNSYG, UN Security Council, UN Special Representative for Iraq condemning the bombing of the Shia Holy Shrine in Samarra, key Arab and Muslim countries and organizations including the Arab League, Arab Gulf Cooperation Council, Organization of Islamic Conference, Association of Muslim Scholars as well as other non-regional organizations such as the European Union Presidency and Council of European Union followed suit with similar statements condemning the attacks.

### UN Confirms Support to Rebuild Shia Holy Shrine:

- The UN stated that it is prepared, with the support of the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), to establish urgently a special reconstruction fund, supported by the international community, to rebuild the damaged Shrine and other mosques that were damaged after February 22. The UN would also encourage and assist projects, including a national compact for the protection of human rights, that are designed to strengthen the bonds of mutual respect, understanding and harmony among all the communities of Iraq. Several individual countries also pledged support for rebuilding and repairing damaged mosques.



## [7.] Increase International Support for Iraq – Contributors to Iraqi Stability Operations

Data as of February 20, 2006

### 26 Countries with forces in Iraq (in addition to US)

Albania	El Salvador	Lithuania	Romania
Armenia	Estonia	Macedonia	Slovakia
Australia	Georgia	Moldova	South Korea
Azerbaijan	Italy	Mongolia	Ukraine
Bosnia-Herzegovina	Japan	Netherlands	UK
Czech Republic	Kazakhstan	Poland	
Denmark	Latvia	Portugal	

**TOTAL ~ 20,000 Forces**

\*Note: Fiji participating as a part of the UN mission in Iraq.

**29 Countries and NATO\***  
(including US)  
**Support Iraqi Stability Operations**

\*29 includes the 26 countries listed above, the US, Fiji, and Singapore.



## **[8.0] Strengthen Public Understanding of Coalition Efforts and Public Isolation of the Insurgents – *Developments***

### Strategic Communications:

- The United States expressed its deepest sympathy and condolences for the senseless murder of Al-Arabiyya reporter Atwar Bahjat, cameraman Adnan Abdullah, and soundman Khalid Muhsen in Iraq on February 22. The US condemned in the strongest terms this crime against Al-Arabiyya and this act of aggression against the efforts of a free press to cover the news. We remember the many other journalists from many diverse media outlets throughout the world who have lost their lives in Iraq.
- Ambassador Zalmay Khalilzad, during an interview on Fox News on February 27, lauded Iraqi leaders for taking steps to calm the situation following the bombing at the Golden Mosque in Samarra. “The Iraqis came to the brink of civil war as a result of the attack on the shrine. They have come now together religious leaders, political leaders, and the government to take steps to calm the situation, as an indication that things are improving. The curfew that was imposed on Baghdad during the day has now been completely lifted. So things are moving in the right direction, but there are pockets of difficulty here and there. But I think the Iraqi leadership rose to the occasion, and came together.”



## [8.0] Strengthen Public Understanding of Coalition Efforts and Public Isolation of the Insurgents – **Developments**

### Strategic Communications:

- President Bush, in address to the American Legion on February 24, stated that “our efforts in the broader Middle East have been guided by a clear principle. Democracy takes different forms in different cultures. Yet, all cultures, in order to be successful, have certain common truths, universal truths: rule of law, freedom of speech, freedom of assembly, a free economy, freedom of women, and the freedom to worship. Societies that lay these foundations not only survive, but they thrive. Societies that don't lay these foundations risk backsliding into tyranny.”
  - “This principle has guided our efforts in Iraq. When our coalition arrived in Iraq, we found a nation where almost none of these basic foundations existed...We're carrying out our clear strategy of victory in Iraq. On the political side, we're helping Iraqis build a strong democracy so old resentments will be eased and the insurgency marginalized. On the economic side, we're continuing reconstruction efforts and helping Iraqis build a modern economy so all Iraqi citizens can experience the benefits of freedom. And on the security side, we're striking terrorist targets, and at the same time, training Iraqis which are becoming increasingly capable of carrying the fight to the enemy. Our strategy in Iraq is, as the Iraqis stand up, we'll stand down. Troop levels on the ground will be decided by commanders on the ground -- not by politicians in Washington, DC.”



## Iraq Weekly Status – General Information

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- This brief draws from multiple sources. References are cited on the following pages.
- Please forward all questions and/or comments to [NEA-I-IPOG-DL@state.gov](mailto:NEA-I-IPOG-DL@state.gov)



## Notes and Source Citations (1 of 4)

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E**Slide 5:**

- MNSTC-I Press Release, Feb. 26, 2006: <http://www.mnstci.iraq.centcom.mil>
- MNF-I Press Release, Feb. 25, 2006: <http://www.mnf-iraq.com/Daily/Feb/060225.htm>

**Slide 6:**

- American Forces Information Service – News Article – Feb. 25, 2006: [http://www.defenselink.mil/news/Feb2006/20060225\\_4318.html/](http://www.defenselink.mil/news/Feb2006/20060225_4318.html/)
- Gulf Region Southern District - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers: Press Release - Feb. 22, 2006: <http://www.grd.usace.army.mil/news/releases/recon022206.html/>

**Slide 7:**

- DoD Input to Iraq Weekly Status Report 1 Mar 06

**Slide 8:**

- State Dept Unclass O/I 27 Feb 06 <[http://www.uniraq.org/get\\_article.asp?Language=EN&ArticleID=121](http://www.uniraq.org/get_article.asp?Language=EN&ArticleID=121)>
- <http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory?id=1667560&CMP=OTC-RSSFeeds0312>

**Slide 9:**

- IECI Website [http://www.ieciraq.org/English/Frameset\\_english.htm](http://www.ieciraq.org/English/Frameset_english.htm)

**Slide 11:**

- The IRRF Financial Chart is sourced from the 1 Mar 06 IRMO Weekly Status Report

**Slide 12:**

- POC Tom Gramaglia, (202) 736-4065
- The chart shows average daily power production in megawatt hours (MWh). 120,000 MWh goal equates to 20 hours at 6000 MW average supplied load or 24 hours at 5000 MW average supply load. Currently supplies are not much improved over last year when judged by hours of power, but this is due in part to an influx of new appliances. This has dramatically altered demand and diluted the effect of increased generation capacity on actual results.

**Slide 13:**

- USACE Press Release Jan 15-30 <http://www.grd.usace.army.mil/news/releases/recon1215-3006.html>
- USACE Press Release Jan 15-30 <http://www.grd.usace.army.mil/news/releases/recon1215-3006.html>





## Notes and Source Citations (2 of 4)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

### Slide 14:

- USAID Reconstruction Weekly Update 24 February 2006
- USACE Press Release Jan 15-30 <http://www.grd.usace.army.mil/news/releases/recon1215-3006.html>
- USACE Press Release Jan 15-30 <http://www.grd.usace.army.mil/news/releases/recon1215-3006.html>

### Slide 15:

- USACE Press Release Jan 15-30 <http://www.grd.usace.army.mil/news/releases/recon1215-3006.html>
- USACE Press Release Jan 15-30 <http://www.grd.usace.army.mil/news/releases/recon1215-3006.html>
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- USACE Press Release Jan 15-30 <http://www.grd.usace.army.mil/news/releases/recon1215-3006.html>

### Slide 16:

- USACE Press Release Jan 15-30 <http://www.grd.usace.army.mil/news/releases/recon1215-3006.html>
- USACE Press Release Jan 15-30 <http://www.grd.usace.army.mil/news/releases/recon1215-3006.html>

### Slide 17:

- NCMC: [www.ncmc-iraq.org](http://www.ncmc-iraq.org)

### Slide 18:

- Oil Prices are sourced from Bloomberg
- Information regarding the Employment Update was sourced from the IRMO Weekly Report – February 15, 2006
- CERP has not reported figures for some time. Until they report accurate data, the number will remain at 0.
- PCO will be reporting on a bi-weekly basis.

### Slide 19:

- Information regarding the NID auction was gathered from the Central Bank of Iraq's website: <http://www.cbiraq.org>.



## Notes and Source Citations (3 of 4)

### Slide 20:

- Iraqi Bond Prices are sourced from Bloomberg

### Slide 21:

- Information regarding the unified pension law was sourced from [www.menafn.com](http://www.menafn.com) – February 26, 2006

### Slide 22:

- POC Matthew Amitrano, (202) 647-5690
- Iraq Petroleum Sector Facts
  - There are three main refineries in Iraq: Bayji (North), Daura (Baghdad), and Basra (South).
  - There are several minor refineries (known as topping plants) dotted through the country: Kisik (Mosul), Qarrayah, Haditha, Tikrit, Nassiriyah, Maysan (Amarah), and Samawah. These primarily produce asphalt and low grade kerosene and diesel.
  - The majority of Iraq's oil infrastructure is antiquated and in need of modernization.
  - Domestically produced refined products (gasoline/benzene, diesel, kerosene, LPG) currently do not meet domestic demand because of sabotage to the pipeline infrastructure. Iraq will be dependent upon imports until the insurgents cease operations against oil pipelines.

### Slide 23:

- POC Matthew Amitrano, (202) 647-5690
- 2003 = \$5.08 billion
- 2004 = \$17.5 billion
- Projected revenue implies if the current export rate held for the entire month.



## Notes and Source Citations (4 of 4)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

**Slide 24:**

- POC Matthew Amitrano, (202) 647-5690
- Goals set by the State Oil Marketing Organization (SOMO), a company owned by the Ministry of Oil (MOO).

**Slide 25:**

- POC Matthew Amitrano, (202) 647-5690

**Slide 26:**

- Aneesh Raman, Ex-Iraqi leader returns to trial looking subdued,  
<http://www.cnn.com/2006/WORLD/meast/02/28/saddam.trial/index.html>

**Slide 27:**

- UN Special Representative Qazi, Press Statement, 2/22/06 & Afghan President Karzai, Press Release, 2/23/06
- [http://www.uniraq.org/get\\_article.asp?Language=EN&ArticleID=121](http://www.uniraq.org/get_article.asp?Language=EN&ArticleID=121)

**Slide 28:**

- DOD Input to Weekly Status Report 01 Feb 06-Report is updated bi-weekly.

**Slide 29:**

- NEWS RELEASE Statement by Adam Ereli Deputy Spokesman U.S. Department of State Murder of Al-Arabiyya Reporters in Iraq, February 23
- (Fox News' "Fox & Friends," 2/27/06)

**Slide 30:**

- White House Press Release, Office of the Press Secretary, February 24, President Addresses American Legion, Discusses Global War on Terror
- <http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/wh/rem/62075.htm>